Airport at Pasighat in Arunachal Pradesh

† 1495. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal regarding construction of airport at Pasighat in Arunachal Pradesh is under Government's consideration;

(b) if so, the reasons for which this proposal is lying pending for years; and

(c) by when the action will be taken on the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) There is an existing airstrip at Pasighat which belongs to Airports Authority of India (AAI). It is presently non-operational and is not fit for any fixed wing aircraft operation. No airline has so far requested to develop this airstrip for operation of ATR-42/72 type of aircraft. The State Government of Arunachal Pradesh had suggested an alternate site for construction of new greenfield airport. On inspection of the site, it was not found technically and operationally suitable for a new airport.

Restriction on concessions to senior citizens

1496.SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines, Jet Airways and Air Sahara have put restrictions on domestic travel concession to senior citizens that ticket must be booked two days in advance with a minimum two nights stay at destination in case of round trips and minimum two nights stay at each intermediate point in case of circle trip journey;

(b) whether prior to July, 2003 such restrictions did not exit;

(c) whether Government have received representations against these restrictions as they defeat the purpose of concession to senior citizens; and

(d) if so, by when Government would make the Airlines withdraw these conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Jet Airways and Sahara Airlines have the requirement of two nights stay, while in case of Indian Airlines the requirement is three nights stay. Only Sahara Airlines require two days

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

advance booking. Such instructions were introduced by the airlines in July, 2003.

(c)and (d)Yes, Sir. The tariffs in respect of airlines is not regulated by Government and it is upto the airlines to fix the tariff and related concessions as per their economic viability and market conditions.

Air service to Myanmar from Delhi

1497. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to connect Myanmar from Delhi in view of the closure of Myanmar Airways from Delhi to Myanmar;

(b) whether Government consider to grant concession in air fare to senior citizens to Myanmar in view of its short time travel; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) As per the air services arrangements between India and Myanmar, the designated airlines of both sides are entitled to operate scheduled air services between Delhi and Myanmar. However, actual operation by any airline is always based on its commercial judgment keeping in view the traffic potential.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

NCW's directives on air-hostesses in Air India

1498.SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA:
SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the alleged discrimination of air-hostesses in Air India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received any suggestion from the NCW in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) National Commission for Women has raised certain issues regarding discrimination with female air hostesses